

State Water Resources Control Board

April 17, 2019

System No. 2300591

Tom Walz
Pine Mountain Mutual Water Company
3800 Chinquapin Drive
Willits, CA 95490

CITATION NO. 02_03_19C_016 NITRATE AND NITRITE MONITORING VIOLATIONS FOR 2018

Enclosed is Citation No. 02_03_19C_016 (hereinafter Citation) issued to the Pine Mountain Mutual Water Company (hereinafter System) by the State Water Resources Control Board, Division of Drinking Water (hereinafter Division) for the failure to sample its source, Well 01, for nitrate and nitrite in 2018.

Please note that there are legally enforceable deadlines associated with this Citation.

The System will be billed at the State Water Resources Control Board's (hereinafter State Water Board) hourly rate for the time spent on issuing this Citation. The System will receive a bill sent from the State Water Board in August of the next fiscal year. California Health and Safety Code (hereinafter CHSC), Section 116577, provides that a public water system must reimburse the State Water Board for actual costs incurred by the State Water Board for specified enforcement actions, including but not limited to preparing, issuing, and monitoring compliance with a citation. At this time, the State Water Board has spent approximately two hours on enforcement activities associated with this violation.

Any person who is aggrieved by a citation, order, or decision issued under authority delegated to an officer or employee of the State Water Board under Article 8 (commencing with CHSC, Section 116625) or Article 9 (commencing with CHSC, Section 116650), of the Safe Drinking Water Act (CHSC, Division 104, Part 12, Chapter 4) may file a petition with the State Water Board for reconsideration of the citation, order, or decision (CHSC, Section 116701).

Petitions must be received by the State Water Board within 30 days of the issuance of the citation, order, or decision by the officer or employee of the State Water Board. The date of issuance is the date when the Division mails a copy of the citation, order, or decision. If the 30th day falls on a Saturday, Sunday, or state holiday, the petition is due

the following business day by 5:00 p.m. Information regarding filing petitions may be found at:

http://www.waterboards.ca.gov/drinking_water/programs/petitions/index.shtml

If you have any questions regarding this matter, please contact Lori Hanson of my staff at (707) 576-2604.

Sincerely,



Sheri K. Miller, P.E.
Mendocino District Engineer
Division of Drinking Water
State Water Resources Control Board

Enclosures

c: Mendocino County EH (via stricklt@co.mendocino.ca.us)

Sean Payne
111 East Commercial Street
Willits, CA 95490

Certified Mail No. 7016 0910 0001 2050 1317

STATE OF CALIFORNIA
STATE WATER RESOURCES CONTROL BOARD
DIVISION OF DRINKING WATER

Name of Public Water System: Pine Mountain Mutual Water Company

Water System Number: 2300591

Attention: Tom Walz
3800 Chinquapin Drive
Willits, CA 95490

Issue Date: April 17, 2019

**CITATION FOR NONCOMPLIANCE WITH
CALIFORNIA HEALTH AND SAFETY CODE, SECTION 116555(a)(1) AND
SECTION 64432.1, TITLE 22, CALIFORNIA CODE OF REGULATIONS
Nitrate and Nitrite Monitoring for 2018**

The California Health and Safety Code (hereinafter CHSC), Section 116650 authorizes the State Water Resources Control Board (hereinafter State Water Board), to issue a citation to a public water system when the State Water Board determines that the public water system has violated or is violating the California Safe Drinking Water Act (hereinafter California SDWA), (CHSC, Division 104, Part 12, Chapter 4, commencing

1 with Section 116270), or any regulation, standard, permit, or order issued or adopted
2 thereunder.

3
4 The State Water Board, acting by and through its Division of Drinking Water (hereinafter
5 "Division"), and the Deputy Director for the Division, hereby issues Citation No.
6 02_03_19C_016 (hereinafter Citation), pursuant to Section 116650 of the CHSC to the
7 Pine Mountain Mutual Water Company (hereinafter System) for violation of Section
8 116555(a)(1), of the CHSC, and Section 64432.1, Title 22, of the California Code of
9 Regulations (hereinafter CCR).

10 11 **STATEMENT OF FACTS**

12 The Pine Mountain Mutual Water Company is classified as a community public water
13 system that serves 124 connections and a population of approximately 310. The
14 System operates under Domestic Water Supply Permit No. 02-03-19P2300591
15 issued on January 23, 2019.

16
17 CHSC, Section 116555(a)(1) requires all public water systems to comply with primary
18 drinking water standards as defined in CHSC, Section 116275(c). Primary drinking
19 water standards include maximum levels of contaminants and the monitoring and
20 reporting requirements as specified in regulations adopted by the State Water Board
21 that pertain to maximum contaminant levels.

22
23 The Pine Mountain Mutual Water Company is required to monitor its source Well 01,
24 PS code 2300591-004, for nitrate every year and for nitrite every three years, in
25 accordance with Section 64432.1, Title 22, of the CCR. As of the date of this Citation,
26 the Division has not received laboratory results for either a nitrate or a nitrite sample
27 collected from the System's source, Well 01, in 2018.

DETERMINATIONS

The Division has determined that Pine Mountain Mutual Water Company is in violation of Section 64432.1, Title 22, of the CCR, because the System failed to perform nitrate and nitrite monitoring on its water source, Well 01, in 2018.

DIRECTIVES

The Pine Mountain Mutual Water Company is hereby directed to take the following actions:

1. Comply with Section 116555(a)(1) of the CHSC, and with Section 64432.1, Title 22, of the CCR in all future monitoring periods.
2. On or before **May 8, 2019**, notify all persons served by the System of the nitrate and nitrite monitoring violations in conformance with Section 64463.4 and Section 64465, Title 22, of the CCR. The Public Notification Template in Appendix 1 must be used to fulfill this directive. **The corrective actions section and contacts section of the template must be completed prior to notification.** The completed notice must be distributed by mail or direct delivery to each customer served by the System. In addition, a second method of notification must be chosen (see Appendix 2 - Compliance Certification form). This second method must also be completed no later than **May 8, 2019**.
3. The System shall complete Appendix 2 - **Compliance Certification**. Submit the completed and signed Compliance Certification form, together with proof of the **two types of public notification**, to the Division on or before **May 17, 2019**.

1 All documents required by this Citation shall be submitted to the Division at
2 dwpdist03@waterboards.ca.gov or mailed to:

3 Division of Drinking Water - Mendocino District
4 State Water Resources Control Board
5 50 D Street, Suite 200, Santa Rosa, CA 95404
6

7 The State Water Board reserves the right to make modifications to this Citation as it
8 deems necessary to protect public health and safety. Such modifications may be
9 issued as amendments to this Citation and shall be effective upon issuance.
10

11 Nothing in this Citation relieves the System of its obligation to meet the requirements
12 of the California Safe Drinking Water Act (CHSC, Division 104, Part 12, Chapter 4,
13 commencing with Section 116270), or any regulation, standard, permit or order issued
14 thereunder.
15

16 **PARTIES BOUND**

17 This Citation shall apply to and be binding upon the System, its owners, shareholders,
18 officers, directors, agents, employees, contractors, successors, and assignees.
19

20 **SEVERABILITY**

21 The directives of this Citation are severable, and the System shall comply with each
22 and every provision thereof notwithstanding the effectiveness of any provision.
23

FURTHER ENFORCEMENT ACTION

The California SDWA authorizes the State Water Board to: issue a citation or order with assessment of administrative penalties to a public water system for violation or continued violation of the requirements of the California SDWA or any regulation, permit, standard, citation, or order issued or adopted thereunder including, but not limited to, failure to correct a violation identified in a citation or compliance order. The California SDWA also authorizes the State Water Board to take action to suspend or revoke a permit that has been issued to a public water system if the public water system has violated applicable law or regulations or has failed to comply with an order of the State Water Board, and to petition the superior court to take various enforcement measures against a public water system that has failed to comply with an order of the State Water Board. The State Water Board does not waive any further enforcement action by issuance of this Citation.



Sheri K. Miller, P.E.
Mendocino District Engineer
Division of Drinking Water

04-17-2019

Date

Appendices (2):

1. Public Notification Template
2. Compliance Certification Form



Certified Mail No.: 7016 0910 0001 2050 1317

2300591/Compliance File #4/02_03_19C_016/LSH

IMPORTANT INFORMATION ABOUT YOUR DRINKING WATER

Este informe contiene informacion muy importante sobre su agua potable. Traduzcalo o hable con alguien que lo entienda bien.

Pine Mountain Mutual Water Company Failed to Sample for Nitrate and Nitrite in 2018

Our water system failed to monitor one of our drinking water sources for the chemicals nitrate and nitrite in 2018, as required by the California Code of Regulations.

Although this is not an emergency, as our customers, you have a right to know what happened, what you should do, and what we did to correct the situation. Please share this information with other people who drink this water, especially those who may not have received this notice directly. You can do this by posting this notice in a public place or giving out copies by hand or mail.

What should I do?

You do not need to take any corrective actions at this time. This is not an emergency. If you have health concerns, you may wish to consult your doctor. General guidelines on regulated contaminants in drinking water are available from EPA's Safe Drinking Water Hotline at (800) 426-4791.

What happened?

We are required by state regulations to monitor our drinking water source for nitrate every year and for nitrite every three years. Results of this monitoring are an indicator of whether or not the drinking water meets health standards for these chemicals. We did not test for nitrate or nitrite during 2018 and, therefore, cannot be sure of the quality of the drinking water at that time.

What does this mean?

We cannot be sure that the level of nitrate and nitrite in our drinking water was below the maximum allowed by law during 2018. Infants under the age of six months who drink water containing too much nitrate or nitrite may quickly become seriously ill and, if untreated, may die because these chemicals can interfere with the capacity of the infant's blood to carry oxygen. Symptoms include shortness of breath and blueness of the skin. High nitrate levels may also affect the oxygen-carrying ability of the blood of pregnant women.

What corrective actions have been taken by the Pine Mountain Mutual Water Company to prevent this violation from occurring in the future?

This notification of the public is being done in compliance with Sections 64463.4 and 64465, Title 22 of the CCR as a means of keeping the public informed.

Persons wishing more information should contact:

PUBLIC WATER SYSTEM NO. 2300591

Date: _____

APPENDIX 2 - COMPLIANCE CERTIFICATION

Citation Number: 02_03_19C_016

Name of Water System: **Pine Mountain Mutual Water Company**

System Number: **2300591**

As required by Section 116450 of the California Health and Safety Code, I certify that the users of the water supplied by this water system were notified of the violation of Title 22, California Code of Regulations. In addition, I certify that the Pine Mountain Mutual Water Company complied with the directives of this citation as indicated below:

Required Action	Date Completed
Public Notification – First Method (REQUIRED) <input type="checkbox"/> Complete Appendix 1, as required in Directive 2 , on page 3 of this citation. Mail or deliver directly to customers served by the water system (attach copy of notice used for delivery).	<input type="text"/>
Public Notification – Second Method <u>Choose one of the following:</u> <input type="checkbox"/> Publication in a local newspaper or newsletter (attach copy of published notice in newspaper); OR <input type="checkbox"/> Post the notice in conspicuous locations within the area served by the water system for at least 7 days (attach photos of posted copies and give locations and dates of posting); OR <input type="checkbox"/> Post notice on the Internet or intranet for seven days (provide website address and attach printout of notice from website)	<input type="text"/>

Signature of Water System Representative

Date

**THIS FORM MUST BE COMPLETED AND RETURNED WITH ATTACHMENTS TO THE DIVISION
NO LATER THAN May 17, 2019**

Disclosure: Be advised that Section 116725 and 116730 of the California Health and Safety Code states that any person who knowingly makes any false statement on any report or document submitted for the purpose of compliance with the attached order may be liable for a civil penalty not to exceed five thousand dollars (\$5,000) for each separate violation for each day that violation continues. In addition, the violators may be prosecuted in criminal court and upon conviction, be punished by a fine of not more than \$25,000 for each day of violation or be imprisoned in county jail not to exceed one year, or by both the fine and imprisonment.